

June 8, 2020

The regular meeting of the Town Board of Vernon was held at 7:00 p.m. on the above date at the Town Office Building. Council members present: Randy Watson, Supervisor; Gene Bennati, Myron Thurston, Steve Adamkowski and John Peters. Also present: Tim Murphy, Highway Superintendent; Keith Schiebel, County Legislator and Jesse Semanchick from Barton and Loguidice.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, there was a moment of silence. The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Watson at 7:00 p.m.

Supervisor Watson asked the council members if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes from the May 11, 2020 meeting. There being none, a motion to approve the minutes as written was made by Thurston, seconded by Peters. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

#### PUBLIC CONCERNS:

None

#### REPORTS:

The following reports were presented: Town Clerk, Supervisor's and Codes Enforcement, Education and Libraries; Bennati stated that the Vernon library has been closed every time he has driven by. Peters asked if they have been notified that we will cut their funding if they do not submit reports. Bennati said they have been made aware of this. However, he does not feel that he should be responsible for repeatedly telling them we have funding for them. Thurston advised that he recommends "no report, no money". Intergovernmental Relations; Adamkowski reported that Verona and Sherrill have made budget cuts. People have asked him what the Town of Vernon was going to do and he advised the Town of Vernon will put off paving and hold off with buying a new truck. We will wait and see how finances are through the summer. Thurston wants people to understand that the Town of Vernon does not borrow money. These other municipalities do and this is likely what has caused them the need to make more cuts. Highway Superintendent, Operations; Thurston reported the paving on Ottman Rd looks nice. County Legislator; Schiebel reported on the District Attorney's traffic diversion program, county sales tax was down 33%, and that county legislator meetings are being held on Webex which is proving to be harder to communicate during the meeting.

There were no reports from Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals, Assessors, Economic Development, SWOCO, and Historian.

A motion to accept the above reports was made by Adamkowski, seconded by Bennati. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to pay the bills was made by Adamkowski, seconded by Thurston. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

#### BUSINESS:

We have several grants we have applied for that we can utilize and once they are secured that will open up new opportunities for additional funding. There was a brief discussion on the possible locations Barton and Loguidice has suggested along with the size of the tanks that will be installed in these locations. A motion to approve Resolution to hold a Public Hearing on establishment of the Vernon Center Water District was made by Thurston, seconded by Peters. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to hold a public hearing on June 22, 2020 at 7:00pm for the establishment of the Vernon Center Water district was made by Thurston, seconded by Bennati. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

An updated timeline and maps for Vernon Center Water Project have been received from Barton & Loguidice.

A motion to hold a Public Hearing on July 13, 2020 at 6:45pm for Codes Mass Gathering permits was made by Peters, seconded by Adamkowski. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to approve 2020 Prospect Street Water maintenance agreement was made by Thurston, seconded by Peters. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to approve letter from Assessor Chairman Frank Laguzza request for Duane Munger to assume the Chairman's position as of July 1, 2020 was made by Peters, seconded by Thurston. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried

A letter from the Department of Transportation was received responding to Congressman Brindisi's letter regarding concerns of water quality in Vernon Center.

A letter was received from Oneida County Executive Picente explaining Sales Tax payments for 1<sup>st</sup> quarter will be sent in 3 installments. The 1<sup>st</sup> installment was received in the amount of \$77,673.22.

A check was received from Charter Communications for franchise fee in the amount of \$9,669.74.

We have received the final check from Oneida County Snow Contract agreement in the amount of \$78,430.00.

There was a discussion on Twitchell Cemetery mowing. The current contract states the cemetery must be mowed a minimum of 2 times per month. It was done once in May and 1 time so far in June. Judd Chandler mowed from the road up to the fence as that had not been done. Peters advised that people complain when it is not mowed. He would recommend that we watch the cemetery this month and see what happens and if the agreement is being upheld.

There was a discussion on purchases made by the Town Historian from Oneida Office Supply. Town Historian requested to make a purchase in March 2020 for materials to protect records that were given to here by Oneida County. The board did not approve this request. Oneida Office Supply will be notified that the Historian is not authorized to make future purchases for the Town of Vernon.

Paving has been completed on Bleeker, Fancett and Ottman Roads.

A motion to approve annual codes contracts with Oneida Castle and Village of Vernon was made by Bennati, seconded by Peters. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion to enter executive session to discuss personnel and library at 7:50pm was made by Adamkowski, seconded by Thurston. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Council returned from Executive session and the meeting was called to order by Supervisor Watson at 8:17pm.

A motion to spend \$3000.00 on a library was made by Adamkowski, seconded by Peters. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

A motion to adjourn at 8:20 p.m. was made by Thurston, seconded by Adamkowski. No discussion. Ayes 5. Nays 0. Motion carried.

Additions to minutes on file  
in Town Clerk's Office.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Champney  
Town Clerk

This meeting was digitally recorded and is on file in the Town Clerk's office.

COMMUNICATIONS:

None